



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## San Diego Region



**Terry Tamminen**  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

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(858) 467-2952 • Fax (858) 571-6972  
<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9>

**Arnold Schwarzenegger**  
Governor

January 28, 2004

To: Applicable Dischargers under NPDES permits  
(see Enterolert Authorization Mailing List attached)

Dear Sir or Madam:

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF ENTEROLERT FOR THE ANALYSIS OF AMBIENT  
RECEIVING WATER SAMPLES**

This correspondence may pertain to your agency or facility if your NPDES permit requires receiving water quality monitoring for bacteria. Many of the NPDES permits issued within the San Diego Region limit the allowable test methods for the analysis of enterococci bacteria in receiving waters to membrane filtration methods contained in the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) document *Test Methods for Escherichia coli and Enterococci in Water by Membrane Filter Procedure* (USEPA 600/4-85/076) and/or to methods authorized by the Regional Board.

In July 2003, the US EPA approved Enterolert, a defined enzyme substrate “most probable number” method, as a test method for the analysis of enterococci for ambient water quality monitoring and amended Title 40 Part 136 of the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the approval (see Federal Register p. 43272, Volume 68, No. 139, July 21, 2003). Enterolert is a proprietary method distributed by IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. In light of the USEPA approval, the Regional Board is authorizing the use of Enterolert for the analysis of enterococci in ambient receiving waters to comply with monitoring requirements in NPDES permits in the San Diego Region. This authorization for the use of Enterolert is limited to ambient receiving waters and does not apply to analysis of wastewater, treated wastewater effluent, or recycled water. Methods contained in *Test Methods for Escherichia coli and Enterococci in Water by Membrane Filter Procedure* may continue to be used as approved methods in addition to Enterolert.

The County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health (SDDEH) has stated, via correspondence to the Regional Board dated November 17, 2003, that it supports the use of Enterolert and that the use of Enterolert within San Diego County would be consistent with SDDEH’s “Standard Operating Procedures for the Collection of Water Samples for Bacterial Analysis from Ocean and Bay Receiving Waters.”

**California Environmental Protection Agency**



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It is my hope that the authorization for the use of Enterolert will provide your agency with an additional tool to help protect the public's health and maintain the quality of the waters of the state. I look forward to continued cooperation between your agency and the Regional Board.

The heading portion of this letter includes a Regional Board code number noted after "In reply refer to:" In order to assist us in the processing of your correspondence please include this code number in the heading or subject line portion of all correspondence and reports to the Regional Board pertaining to this matter.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact Mr. Victor Vasquez at (858) 636-3155, or via e-mail at [vasqv@rb9.swrcb.ca.gov](mailto:vasqv@rb9.swrcb.ca.gov).

Respectfully,

  
JOHN H. ROBERTUS  
Executive Officer

JHR:mpm:bdk:vrw

Attachment: Enterolert Authorization Mailing List

cc: Ms. Kathi Moore, Chief, Compliance Office, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, M.S. WTR-7, San Francisco, CA 94105

Mr. Larry Honeybourne, Environmental Health Division, Orange County Health Care Agency, 2009 E. Edinger Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705-4720

Mr. Mark McPherson, Chief, Land and Water Division, Department of Environmental Health, County of San Diego, P.O. Box 129261, San Diego, CA 92112-9261

Mr. James Gillis, Environmental Health Department, County of Riverside, 4065 County Circle Drive, Riverside, CA 92503

COPY OF Enterolert EO approval.doc

**California Environmental Protection Agency**



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ENCINA WASTEWATER AUTHORITY  
6200 AVENIDA ENCINAS  
CARLSBAD, CA 92009

FILE: 01-0030.02

SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER  
AUTHORITY  
34156 DEL OBISPO  
DANA POINT, CA 92629

FILE: 01-0175.02, 01-0117.02

PADRE DAM MWD  
10887 WOODSIDE AVE  
SANTEE, CA 92071

FILE: 01-0053.02

SAN ELIJO JOINT POWERS AUTH  
P.O. BOX 1077  
CARDIFF BY THE SEA, CA 92007-7077

FILE: 01-0125.02

RANCHO CALIFORNIA WATER DISTRICT  
42135 WINCHESTER RD  
TEMECULA, CA 92589

FILE: 01-0601.02

IBWC-US & MEXICO SECTION  
2225 DAIRY MART RD  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92173

FILE: 01-0732.02

CALTRANS DISTRICT 11  
2829 JUAN STREET, PO BOX 85406  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92286-5406

FILE: 10-1004.02

CITY OF SAN DIEGO, MWWD  
9150 TOPAZ WAY  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92123

FILE: 01-0275.02, 01-0900.02

CITY OF OCEANSIDE, WATER UTIL DEP  
300 N COAST HWY  
OCEANSIDE, CA 92054

FILE: 01-0146.02

CITY OF ESCONDIDO  
201 N BROADWAY  
ESCONDIDO, CA 92025

FILE: 01-0031.02, 01-0833.02

FALLBROOK PUBLIC UTILITY DIST  
P.O. BOX 2290  
FALLBROOK, CA 92088

FILE: 01-0115.02

USMC BASE, CAMP PENDLETON  
PO BOX 555008, BLDG 22165  
CAMP PENDLETON, CA 92055-5008

FILE: 01-1182.02

CABRILLO POWER 1 LLC  
4600 CARLSBAD BLVD  
CARLSBAD, CA 92008

FILE: 13-0092.02

CALTRANS DISTRICT 12  
3337 MICHELSON DR., STE. 380  
IRVINE, CA 92612-8894

FILE: 10-1004.02

CALTRANS DISTRICT 8  
464 W. FOURTH ST.  
SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92401-1400

FILE: 10-1004.02

CONTINENTAL MARITIME IND, INC  
1995 BAYFRONT ST  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92113

FILE: 03-0400.02

DUKE ENERGY NORTH AMERICA, LLC  
990 BAY BLVD.  
CHULA VISTA, CA 91911

FILE: 13-0091.02

HUBBS-SEA WORLD, AGUA HEDIONDA  
4200 GARFIELD STREET  
CARLSBAD, CA 92008

FILE: 12-0577.02

HUBBS-SEA WORLD, MISSION BAY  
2595 INGRAHAM STREET  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92109

FILE: 12-0578.02

IDEC PHARMACEUTICALS  
3030 CALLAN RD  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92056

FILE: 02-1103.02

NATIONAL STEEL & SHIPBUILDING  
PO BOX 85278  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92186-5278

FILE: 03-0066.02

SEA WORLD, INC  
1720 S SHORES RD  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92109-7995

FILE: 12-0083.02

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON  
PO BOX 128  
SAN CLEMENTE, CA 92672

FILE: 13-0093.02

SOUTHWEST MARINE, INC  
PO BOX 13308  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92170

FILE: 03-0137.02

SWEETWATER AUTHORITY  
505 GARRETT AVE  
CHULA VISTA, CA 91910-2328

FILE: 02-0858.02

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO  
9500 GILMAN DR  
LA JOLLA, CA 92093-0920

FILE: 12-0018.02

DEPT. OF THE NAVY, COMMANDER  
NAVY REGION SOUTHWEST  
ENVIRONMENTAL DEPT., CODE N45 RW  
33000 NIXIE WAY  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92147-5110

FILE: 03-0538.02